Depth of Under-ground Telephone Cables

771. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the standard depth prescribed for laying the under-ground telephone cables;

(b) whether under-ground cables connecting Gajrajbigha under Nalanda Exchange have been laid at the prescribed depth;

(c) if so, the reasons for damage to the cable resulting frequent disruptions of telephone connections; and

(d) if answer to part (b) above be in the negative, what action Government propose to take against the contractor and the officials responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) (a) The standard depth for laying under-ground cable is one metre.

(b) Yes, Sir. Standard depth has mostly been maintained except for locations where pipes, sewerage, rocky soil etc. exist.

(c) The under-ground cable connecting village Gajrajbigha has been partially damaged due to water pipe line laying work near village Damankhanda and Begampur. However the cable has now been repaired.

(d) No action is contemplated against the contractor/officials in view of (b) above. Payment has been made to the contractor as per actual depth of cables laid.

Time-limit for transfer of telephone

772. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to satate:

(a) whether MTNL, Delhi has any time-limit for transferring telephone from one exchange to another;

(b) if so, whether this time-limit was adhered to in the case of requests for transfer of telephones received at Chanakyapuri office of MTNL on 31st December, 2001;